

Message Text

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ACTION OFA-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OES-05 INT-05 L-03

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01

SP-02 DLOS-04 IO-10 AGR-10 DOTE-00 CG-00 /085 W

----- 029860

R 291600Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1440

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

UNCLAS COPENHAGEN 2504

PASS STATE FOR T. CLINGAN IN OES, COMMERCE FOR D. WALLACE
IN NOAA AND FOR R. SCHONING AND C. BLONDIN IN NMFS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIS, DA, NEAFC

SUBJECT: DENMARK FILES OBJECTION TO NEAFC NORTH SEA
HERRING RECOMMENDATION

REF (A) COPENHAGEN 2028 (B) COPENHAGEN A-62

1. SUMMARY: ON AUG 27, THE GOVERNMENT OF DENMARK
FILED OBJECTIONS WITH THE SECRETARIAT OF THE NORTH-
EAST ATLANTIC FISHERIES COMMISSION ON RECOMMENDATION
8 (A) CONCERNING THE NORTH SEA AND SKAGERRAK HERRING
QUOTA AND ON RECOMMENDATION 2 (C) CONCERNING MINIMUM
MESH SIZE. A HIGH MINISTRY OF FISHERIES OFFICIAL
ALSO TOLD US DENMARK REQUESTED THAT THE ABOVE
RECOMMENDATIONS BE RENEGOTIATED AT THE SPECIAL NEAFC
COMMISSION MEETING IN NOVEMBER 1975. END SUMMARY

2. IN THE NOTE SENT TO THE COMMISSION, THE DANISH
GOVERNMENT SAID THAT IT FOUND THE 69,000 METRIC TONS
ALLOCATION TO DENMARK AND THE FAEROE ISLANDS FOR THE
JULY 1, 1975 TO DECEMBER 31, 1976 PERIOD UNACCEPTABLE
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BOTH IN AN ABSOLUTE SENSE AND IN RELATION TO AL-

LOCATIONS MADE TO NUMBER OF CONTRACTING STATES IN WHICH SOME MAINTAINED OR INCREASED THEIR RELATIVE SHARE, THE NOTE ALSO ARGUED THAT THE 69,000 TON FIGURE PLACED ON DANISH HERRING CATCHES FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND BY-CATCHES IMPOSED A HEAVY BURDEN BECAUSE OF THE STRUCTURE OF DENMARK'S FISHING INDUSTRY (SEE REF B). THE NOTE WENT ON TO SAY THAT DENMARK'S CONCERN FOR THE NORTH SEA HERRING STOCKS CAN BE SEEN BY ITS WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION 8 (B) WHICH PROVIDES FOR A BAN ON DIRECTED FISHING OF HERRING FOR REDUCTION. THE DANISH GOVERNMENT SUGGESTED THAT THE QUOTAS BE RENEGOTIATED AT THE SPECIAL NEAFC MEETING.

3. TO AMELIORATE THE EFFECT OF THEIR OBJECTION TO THE QUOTA, THE DANES POINTED OUT MEASURES TAKEN TO AVOID EXCESSIVE FISHING FOR HERRING UNTIL AN ALTERNATIVE NEAFC RECOMMENDATION COULD BE AGREED UPON. DENMARK WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN THE PROHIBITION ISSUED JULY 10, 1975 ON DIRECTED FISHING OF HERRING FOR REDUCTION AND HAS SET A 45,000 TON LIMIT FOR DENMARK PLUS AN 8,000 TON LIMIT FOR THE FAEROE ISLANDS FOR THE JULY 1 - DECEMBER 31, 1975 PERIOD. THE DANES WENT ON TO SAY THAT ONE SHOULD NOT EXTRAPOLATE THE 53,000 TONS FOR SIX MONTHS INTO 159,000 FOR 18 MONTHS BECUASE FISHING ACTIVITIES AND REGULATIONS PLANNED FOR JAN-JUNE 1976 PERIOD WOULD LIMIT CATCHES FOR THAT PERIOD CONSIDERABLY BELOW 53,000 TONS.

4. IN OBJECTING TO THE 20 MM MINIMUM MESH SIZE IN RECOMMENDATION 2 (C), THE DANES SAID THAT THE 20 MM MINIMUM IS NOT APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN FISHERIES, E.G., SPRAT, BECAUSE THE MESH SIZE WOULD EITHER PREVENT FISHING FOR SUCH SPECIES OR WOULD HAVE AN EFFECT CONTRARY TO THE RESULTS DESIRED. THE NOTE POINTED OUT THE HURRIED MANNER AND INSUFFICIENT TIME GIVEN FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS AT THE MAY MEETING RESULTED IN THE FAILURE BY THE COMMISSION TO INCLUDE THE USUAL TRANSITORY PERIOD WHEN OLD NETS WOULD BE PHASED OUT AND NEW NETS INTRODUCED. DENMARK PROPOSED THAT THE COMMISSION ALSO REVIEW RECOM-

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MENDATION 2 (C) AT THE NOVEMBER MEETING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FISHERIES, MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH02504
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750301-0480
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t1975082/aaaaabgl.tel
Line Count: 109
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION OFA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 COPENHAGEN 2028, 75 COPENHAGEN A-62
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: hartledg
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 10 JAN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <10 JAN 2003 by ReddocGW>; APPROVED <23 JAN 2004 by hartledg>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DENMARK FILES OBJECTION TO NEAFC NORTH SEA HERRING RECOMMENDATION
TAGS: EFIS, DA, NEAFC
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006